

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 09825 311729Z

60

ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 AGR-05 AID-05 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OPR-02 OMB-01 /100 W
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R 311624Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9864
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ELAB ICFTU CH

SUBJECT: SOLIDARITY SHIP FOR CHILE

REF: SANTIAGO 7174 (NOTAL)

1. ON OCTOBER 31 ICFTU GENERAL SECRETARY KERSTEN TOLD THE MISSION LABOR ATTACHE THAT THE ICFTU IS "TRYING TO STOP" THE MOVE TO SEND A "SOLIDARITY SHIP" TO CHILE WHICH WOULD CONTAIN FOODSTUFFS, CLOTHING AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR NEEDY CHILDREN. HE SIAD THAT THE DECISION WAS TAKEN PURSUANT TO TALKS WITH OFFICIALS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PEACE DURING THE RECENT VISIT OF THE ICFTU SPECIAL MISSION TO CHILE. ACCORDING TO KERSTEN, COMMITTEE OFFICIALS TOLD THE ICFTU DELEGATION THAT THERE WAS LITTLE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE PROPOSED SHIPMENT WOULD REACH THE INTENDED RECIPIENTS AND THAT DESPITE THE LAUDALBE OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT THAT IT COULD

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PROVE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE IN TERMS OF THE COMMITTEE'S

ABILITY TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY IN CARRYING OUT MORE
ESSENTIAL AND LONG RANGE PROGRAMS OF HUMANITARIAN
RELIEF.

2. KERSTEN TOLD US THAT THE ICFTU WILL CONTINUE TO
CONCENTRATE ON SENDING FUNDS TO CHILE EARMARKED FOR
LEGAL ASSISTANCE AND HUMANITARIAN AID FOR THE FAMILIES
OF IMPRISONED AND EXILED TRADE UNION LEADERS. HE
ADDED THAT THE ICFTU HAS BEEN ABLE TO WORK WITHOUT
DIFFICULTY WITH THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES AND
DOES NOT WANT TO JEOPARIZED THAT ARRANGEMENT BY
ASSOCIATING ITSELF WITH SOMETHING AS RISKY AS THE
"SOLIDARITY SHIP" PROJECT.

3. COMMENTING ON THE ORIGINS OF THE PROJECT, KERSTEN
SAID THAT IT WAS PROPOSED BY A GROUP OF SHOP STEWARDS
IN THE BRITISH TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS UNION
AND THAT IT WAS "UNDOUBTEDLY COMMUNIST INSPIRED."
GREENWALD

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: ELAB, SHUM, PFOR, CI, ICFTU
To: STATE
Type: TE
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